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YOUNG AMERICANS ...YOU CAN HELP FIGHT PLANT PESTS



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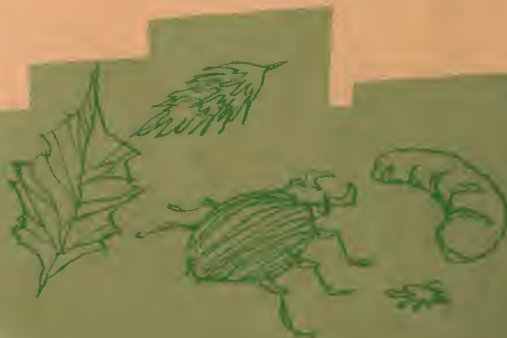
CURRENT SERIAL RECORDS



As a typical young American, you probably enjoy finding, collecting, and exchanging insects, rocks, plants, soil samples, and other objects you encounter on your hikes, camp outs, and trips.

Such activities are fun and can be educational as well. They provide opportunities to demonstrate a healthy pride in the products of your home community's farms and forests and to demonstrate a broadening interest in the world around you. Collecting unusual objects of nature may even provide you the raw materials you need to develop a science project or an exhibit.

Unfortunately, however, some insects, nematodes, and plant diseases are very destructive. Because many of them are tiny and leave no visible signs of their presence, they may be carried unnoticed along with innocent appearing objects. When you move these objects into new areas, you may unknowingly spread pests harmful to the Nation's crops, forests, lawns, and gardens. And you may violate State or Federal quarantines designed to prevent spread of damaging pests now present in some parts of the United States.



PLANT PESTS ARE COSTLY

Plant pests cost Americans billions of dollars a year for pest control and in damage to crops, forests, range-lands, gardens, and recreation areas. The cost and damage would be much greater if these pests were not held in check by cooperative State-Federal plant quarantine and control programs.

Every region of the country has destructive plant pests. Many are aliens that cause more damage here than they did in their homeland because their natural enemies were left behind. Some examples are Japanese beetle, gypsy moth, European chafer, white-fringed beetle, cereal leaf beetle, witchweed, golden nematode, and pink bollworm. If you give them a free ride into new areas, these pests will cause even greater damage.

WHY QUARANTINE LAWS ARE IMPORTANT

It is important for you to be aware of Federal and State plant quarantine laws. These laws protect all of us by regulating the movement of anything that might spread plant pests.

Quarantines regulate the movement of the following:

- Live insects, nematodes and plant disease organisms.
- Soil of any kind including gravel and sand.
- Plants and plant parts of all kinds including trees, shrubs, bark, wood, hay, or straw.
- Used farm machinery.

Before transporting any of these things from a quarantined area, check first with a plant pest control official or your county agent. He will tell you how you can transport them without the danger of spreading plant pests.

Help fight plant pests by observing quarantine regulations and by telling your friends and neighbors about the importance of quarantines.

INFORMATION FURNISHED BY:

Plant Pest Control Division
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